

PROJECTS ON THE ROYAL MILE, EDINBURGH

CASTLEROCK HOSTEL

The major up-grading of Edinburgh's most successful hostel included adding new rooms and installing fire precautions within the historic fabric whilst it remained occupied, requiring an exceptional degree of organisational management and skill.

THE SIGNET LIBRARY

The modernization of the building has included the conversion of former book storage into Arbitration & Seminar Rooms, offices and catering facilities. Facilities have also been provided for ceremonial purposes at the Thistle Chapel. Detailed consent for the installation of a 4 storey lift, to give disabled and service access to the Upper Library, has been given, but not yet implemented.

TRON SQUARE

The Scottish Development Agency commissioned a Master Plan from the practice in 1992 to bring life back to the area, and over the years the proposals for complex mixed use development have gradually been implemented.

TWEEDDALE COURT

With minimal funds over a long period, the Practice got consents for and helped convert former derelict buildings and tenements into 16 flats, premises for the Saltire Society and 8 other offices, including The List magazine.

MUSEUM OF EDINBURGH

Based on the Practice's Master Plan, detailed proposals for upgrading this largest ensemble of c.16th Scottish domestic urban architecture into a contemporary museum have been prepared. Phase I is recently completed, including two courtyards, a shop and an AV show, and with Edinburgh World Heritage Trust as temporary tenants in a revitalised Acheson House.

THE HUB, EDINBURGH'S FESTIVAL CENTRE

Opened by HM The Queen in 1999, The Hub is the home of the world's most successful Festival. The project was initiated by Benjamin Tindall Architects to find a suitable use for a redundant landmark building. The Practice led the initial fund-raising and was intimately involved with the business plan, which has proven to be one of a very few of its kind to be successful. The Practice was responsible for the significant art commissioning budget, integrating it with the building fabric.

THE FRINGE

The Practice's Master Plan for derelict buildings in the area resulted in the current shop, box office, offices and storage on 3 levels. Its shopfront, designed with Gerald Scarfe, has become an icon for the Festival.

THE MACKENZIE BUILDING

A former Heriots school, subsequently a Wireworks, was converted to provide education and consulting rooms for the Faculty of Advocates, with van-accessible book storage. New works include the entrance pavilion and courtyard.

JOHN KNOX HOUSE

Detailed measured and documentary surveys resulted in new understandings of the building. Alterations were made to install the current exhibitions and visitor facilities. Repairs were carried out with the greatest sensitivity.

THE QUEEN'S GALLERY

Designed for HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee, the repair and conversion of redundant spaces into The Queen's Gallery with beautiful, flexible and practical spaces, shop and other facilities with high quality environmental services has been one of the Practice's most challenging and enjoyable projects.

"... Ben Tindall's new Queen's Gallery is a gem-like example of what can be done"

Alexander McCall Smith, AHSS magazine

